SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: There is no question of this Government or that Government. I am concerned with the money utilisatioin.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Since you had mentioned about the Congres Government, I am forced to tell the truth. That is all.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: सभापति महोदय, जब भी हम किसी कल्याण के बारे में बात करते हैं तो मंत्री जी आंकड़े देकर रुपए से करोड़ के हिसाब से बताते हैं कि इतना कल्याण हो गया लेकिन जो जगन्नाथ सिंह जी ने प्रश्न किया, वह भी इसी तरीके से था कि आपने पहली पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के बाद कोई ऐसा असेसमेंट किया कि इतने हजारों-करोड़ों रुपए खर्च करने के बाद हमारा जो उद्देश्य था आदिवासी कल्याण के बारे में, वह कहां तक सफल हुआ? इसलिए मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि आपने क्या कोई ऐसा सर्वे किया? क्या आप के पास आंकड़े हैं कि उनका जो कंजम्शन था आज़ादी के पहले, आज़ादी के वक्त, तब से लेकर अब तक उसमें क्या परिवर्तन आया है? उनकी शिक्षा के बारे में था, वह कितना ...ऐसा नहीं है कि उसके अंदर कितने लोग...किस तरह से वह फैला। जो आदिवासियों की हमारी पॉपुलेशन है, उसके अंदर शिक्षा का प्रभाव क्या पड़ा और उसका कितना फैलाव हुआ? दूसरी तरफ जो ह्यूमन डेवलपमेंट इंडाइसिस है, हमारी पूरी पॉपुलेशन के लिए जो डेवलपमेंट हुए चाहे वह इनफैन्ट मोर्टेलिटी रेट हो चाहे लाइफ ऐक्सपेक्टेंसी हो चाहे महिलाओं के बारे में हो, इसमें आदिवासियों की जो संख्या है उसके अंदर कम्पेरेटिव स्टडी क्या है? आज़ादी के बाद इतने साल तक जो भी डेवलपमेंट हुआ, नॉन ट्राइबल्स और ट्राइबल्स का, डेवलपमेंट में ट्राइबल्स का रेट ऑफ ग्रोथ डेवलपमेंट का जो है, उसमें कोई फर्क है या नहीं-ऐसा कोई सर्वे आपने किया है या नहीं?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, I have already mentioined as part of this questioin that the percentage of the tribal families below the poverty line has come down over the years. While in the year 1983-84 the percentage of general population below the poverty line was 40, that of the ST population was 58.4. In the year 1987-88 while the percentage of the general population below the poverty line was 33.40, that of the ST population was 52.60.

Sir, the Tribal Sub-Plan component is a key input in which literacy is one of the major factors so that they can get out of this problem and be on par with other citizens of the country. On the point of literacy the Tribal Sub-Plan is aiming to give first priority to leteracy and then the development programmes,. These are the two strategies that we have. Under this programme the tribal literacy rate which was 11.80 per cent in 1971 has gone up to 16.35 per cent in 1981. In the year 1991 the literacy rate of the tribals further increased to 29.60 per cent. So, it is a very good development. It is not deteriorating. At the same time, we are not happy and do not feel that it is enough. We want that they should also be on par with other citizens. This is one point, Sir.

While replying earlier, I mentioned the figures about the targets and achievements...

SHRI MD. SALIM: I am not asking about the targets and achievements. I am asking about the rate of development as compared to the rate of development available for non-tribals.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: I mentioned this just now.

Funds Allocated to the National Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation

*322. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allocated funds for Backward Classes to the National Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95 in each of the districts of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of districts where Government have set up such Corporations;

(d) whether Government have made some additional recommendations for these Corporations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) and (b) The Government of India, Ministry of Welfare had allocated to NBCFDC Rs. 32 crore and Rs. 35.50 crore during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively for programme of self

employment of Backward Classes covering all the states/Union Territories including Gujarat.

The amount of loan sanctioned and disbursed to the State Corporations of Gujarat during the period is given as under:—

	1993-94	1994-95	Total
Sanction (Rs. in lakhs)	318.00	—	318.00
Disbursement (Rs. in lakhs)	170.00	—	170.00

(c) The Government of India has set up National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation at national level and there is no such Corporation set up by Government of India at the State or the District level.

The State Governments/Union Territory Government have set up State/Union Territory level Corporations/Channelising Agencies to look after the interests of Backward Classes in their torritorial jurisdictions.

NBCFDC routes its programmes assistance through such Corporations/Channelising Agencies in these States/UTs. (d) and (e) Does not arise.

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the answer to my question is not satisfactory. I should say, it is vague. The object of setting up the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation was to assist the backward classes, with a view, to uplifting them by giving them financial assistance, viable for the self-employment and imparting technical skill. But I would like to say that the object is not being fulfilled because the Central Government has allotted Rs. 318 lakhs to the State of Gujarat in 1994. The first disbursement took place on the 23rd March, 1994. The rest of the amount has not yet been disbursed. Not only that, we do not find any allocation for the year 1994-95 and 1995-96. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister, what are the norms for allocating funds to the State Backward Classes Corporations?

The second thing I would like to know is: What is the equity participation of States? And how many States have not contributed their equity during the last three years? I would also like to know whether any census of the backward classes population in the country has been carried out or not. One Standing Committee report says that the backward classes population in the whole country is 16.4 per cent. At the same time, I want to read out from a newspaper dated 13th June, 1995, wherein the Secretary of Welfare Department, Mr. Mata Prasad. has made a statement. He said, I quote: A fresh census was essential for knowing the exact number of people belonging to the OBCs in the country. The last census was conducted during the colonial rule in 1931. I would like to know, how this figure of 16.4 per cent of backward classes population in the country has been indicated in this report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Rest of the questions you reserve for your second supplementary.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member was talking about the State of Gujarat. I will answer the first part of his question, Gujarat. The Gujarat State Backward Classes Finance Corporation has requested the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation for allotment of some money. In the year 1992-93, they were allotted Rs. 170 lakhs. In 1993-94, they again requested for allotment of Rs. 318 lakhs. I have mentioned this in my statement. The hon. Member, I think, is confused. As per the State Government's request, we have sanctioned the amount, but so far they have not utilised the sanctioned amount. This is one. Totally, we have sanctioned from the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, Rs. 488 lakhs. Till date, they have utilised only Rs. 170 lakhs. This is the fact. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Sir, I seek your protection. I have got the correspondence from the State Government. The amount of Rs. 170 lakhs was disbursed as the final one. SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, let him listen to me first. What I am stating is correct. They have not utilised the funds allotted to the State. We have sanctioned Rs. 318 lakhs for 1993-94. But the State Government has utilised only Rs. 170 lakhs. After that they have not asked for funds. For 1994-95 and 1995-96, they have not asked for funds. No demand came from the State of

Gujarat. This is a fact. Whenever the State Government wants, we are willing to sanction any amount. There is no problem. Again, to the surprise of the hon. Member, I must say, the State Government has to give block guarantees. They have given guarantees up to Rs. 243 lakhs only so far. The sanctioned amount is Rs. 488 lakhs. They are not utilising this. Sir, the hon. Member can verify this fact with the State Government and come back to us. I am right according to the statement given by the State Government and my department.

The hon. Member was making a mention about the survey of the population of the OBCs. He is right. In 1931, survey was conducted. After that, there has been no specific survey conducted. According to the Planning Commission document, an assessment was made. The hon. Member has mentioned that the percentage of the OBC population is sixteen in the country today. It is wrong. It is more than 50 per cent. The number of people below the poverty line is about 40 crores in the country now. This is the correct figure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Sir, so far as the request for funds is concerned, it is a settled principle of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation that the State's contribution would be 49 per cent and 51 per cent would come from the Centre. I would like to know whether the Government is considering giving their funds to the backward classes. Where a whole village consists of backward classes, it should be given first preference so far as education, road development, health, etc. are concerned. Are there any such plans? Or will the Central Government give such direction to the State agencies?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, the hon. Member was mentioning about the percentages of share of the State and the Central Governments. At the moment, it is not on a sharing basis. The Central Government is giving sanctions on the basis of the recommendations made by the State Corporations. Whatever amount they require, we are willing to sanction. There are two bases; one is term loan and the other margin money loan. Term loan is given up to Rs. 5 lakhs for individual beneficiaries and margin money loan is given up to Rs. 2 lakhs. This is what we are doing.

The hon. Member was also asking about the schemes we are having for the welfare and development of the backward classes. In this front, our Corporation is having specific programmes. We have identified a number of programmes for the people below the poverty line. They can gain employment and do other ventures so that they can develop their lot. One relates to agriculture and allied issues. They can start small industries. Artisans and people doing traditional occupations can venture. People of technical trades can venture self-employment. They can start industries with a capital ranging between Rs. One lakh and Rs. 5 lakhs. They can start any small business, industry and tiny industry. Transport services are also allowed. Apart from these things, if the State Backward Classes Corporations want, they can earmark a few other projects. We will certainly consider these things. There is no dearth of money. There is no dearth of interest. We want that the State Corporation should come up to our expectations and try to see that the backward communities at large are benefited.

श्री राजूभाई ए. परमार: महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि जो सैंवरांड अमाउंट है वह 318 लाख है और जो डिसबर्समेंट हुआ है वह 170 लाख है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने सैंक्शन तो 318 लाख किया है..... लेकिन एक्चुअल डिसबर्समेंट आपने 117 लाख का किया है। आप अभी बोल रहे थे कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने बाकी का अमाउंट यूज नहीं किया है। लेकिन आपने खाली सैंक्शन किया है। उसका डिसबर्समेंट नहीं हुआ है। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि बाकी का जो अमाउंट है वह आप कब डिसबर्स करने जा रहे हैं?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, I mentioned very clearly in my reply that we have sanctioned not only Rs. 318 lakhs but more than that We have sanctioned Rs. 488 lakhs. But till date, the State Government of Gujarat has utilised only Rs. 170 lakhs. That is my contention and after that, they have not taken the money. It is the duty of the State Government to come forward and take the money. We are willing to disburse the money. Once it is sanctioned, the money is ready for them. It is up to the State Government to utilise it as and when they want. But they are not doing

if for the last three years. It is not my fault. It is the fault of the State Government. They have to devise a machanism to find out how to help the people and how to get the money. The mechanism is already available and the sanction is ready.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे: सभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने जो उत्तर दिया है उसमें उन्होंने बताया है कि जो सैंक्शन है वह 318 है लेकिन अब जो जवाब दे रहे हैं उसमें कह रहे हैं कि 488 सैंक्शन किया है। वैसे तो जवाब ही आप गलत दे रहे हैं। जो प्रश्नकर्ता ने प्रश्न किया है उससे बिल्कुल गलत बातें बता रहे हैं। पहले 318 बताया, अभी आप कह रहे हैं 488 हो गया है और इतना सैंक्शन किया है। आपने 1994-95 में कोई अमाउंट गुजरात सरकार को नहीं दिया। मेरा सीध सवाल यह है कि बोर्ड के पास गुजरात राज्य या अन्य सारे राज्यों की मार्फत से जो बैकवार्ड लोग आते हैं तो यह अमाउंट सैंक्शन करने में बोर्ड के नार्म्स क्या हैं। यह पहले बताएं।

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, the hon. Member is telling that I have given a wrong answer. It is not correct. I have given a right answer. *(Interruptions)* Please listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the Minister first. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Sir, it is written in the statement. It has been stated in the answer that Rs. 170 lakhs have been granted as a whole. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister answer.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे: आपने दिया है 318, अब आप 488 कह रहे हैं। गलत तो बता ही रहे हैं। अभी भी गलत ही बोल रहे हैं। इसमें लिखा है। इट इज प्रिंटेड इन योर रिप्लाई। हाउस को गलत बता रहे हैं। 318 उन्होंने जवाब में लिखा है। अब राजूभाई परमार के जवाब में 488 बता रहे हैं।

श्री अजीत जोगी: दवे साहब आप हिंदी में बोल रहे हैं, ये अंग्रेजी में बोल रहे हैं। यही फर्क है। (व्यावधान)

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Please sit down. I will reply and satisfy you. The question asked, relates to the years 1993-94 and 1994-95. That is why, in my reply I said that up to the year 1993-94 Rs. 488 lakhs were sanctioned and that is correct And up to 1994-95, only Rs. 170 lakhs were disbursed and this information is also correct.

Then the hon. Member said that I have given the higher figure. In order to make him understand the whole thing, I would like to tell him what the State Government is doing. We had sanctioned Rs. 170 lakhs in the year 1992-93. The State Government had asked for Rs. 170 lakhs. In the year 1993-94, they asked for.... *(Interruptions)* Please listen to me first. If you have any doubt even then, I am prepared to clarify the same. *(Interruptions)* In the year 1993-94, they asked for Rs. 318 lakhs. The total comes to Rs. 488 lakhs. So, my answer is right. But since the question asked by the hon. Member related to the year 1993-94, I replied that in the year 1993-94 we have sanctioned Rs. 318 lakhs and the State Government has disbursed only Rs. 170 lakhs, that is, the utilisation by you. In the year 1994-95, the State Government has not taken the money. That is my charge and I already explained it to you. So my answer is right. There is nothing wrong in it. *(Interruptions)* That relates to the second part of the question. I will come to that. *(Interruptions)* Your charge is not correct. My answer is correct. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, he has proved it. *(Interruptions)* Please don't interrupt.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, the National Backward Classes Finance Development Corporation was incorporated for the development and welfare of the backward communities in the coun try. Sir, as I mentioned earlier, we have asked all the State Governments to submit their proposals about the various schemes which are enunciated by this Department, by our Government, and it will help to ameliorate the conditions of the backward classes. Sir, within two years of inception of the Corporation, we have sanctioned funds to the tune of Rs. 261 crores. The number of beneficiaries in various States is increasing. They are very much encouraging. They are doing very well. If any State has any problem, we are willing to sort it out. And we have requested the State Govenments to submit proposals and get the money. This is our contention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pragada Kotaiah. Have you a question on Gujarat?

SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Sir, the hon. Minister has given the figures of amounts which have been provided to the National Backward

Classes Finance Development Corporation for the welfare of backward classes. The amounts are very inadequate. What is the basis of providing funds for the welfare of backward classes? Is it done on the basis of population just as it is being done in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? If not, why? That is one thing. The Government of India is interested in the welfare of the backward classes who are below the poverty line, but the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is not providing even stipends to the backward class students, studying in high schools and colleges. And they say, there is dearth of funds! Therefore, how are we going to help the students of backward classes to carry on their education in colleges and also in high schools?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, the hon. Member is right that according to the population, we are not allocating funds so far. Sir, this is a new Corporation which has come into being to help the backward communities at large. Recently, our Government has enunciated a Reservation Policy. Apart from reservation, another thing is social development. That is one of the main factors; that is why this Corporation has come into being. And we have requested all the State Governments to prepare and submit proposals for the welfare and development of backward classes and communities and ask funds for them. We want that the State Governments should come forward and ask. There is no second opinion. As and when the State Governments want our help, we are willing to give in whatever from they want it. And particularly regarding Andhra Pradesh Government asked for funds worth Rs. 14 crores for a number of schemes and we had sanctioned the full amount and they are utilising them very effectively. Their system is very effective and the State Government has set a model for the country, I must say here.

Regarding his second question, whether we are going to allocate funds for the backward classes according to their population. Sir, the backward classes population is over 50 per cent. At the moment, we have no idea. It is a need and we will certainly try to examine the proposals of the hon. Member.

Restrictions on movement of foodgrains

*323 SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any restrictions on the movement of foodgrains in the country;

(b) the manner in which Government ensures that there is no regional disparity in the availability of foodgrains in the country; and

(c) the detailed plans made for the proposed food security scheme.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) In March, 1993, Central Government advised all the States/UTs. to remove all types of movement restrictions on foodgrains. In response to this, all the States/UTs, excepting West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and J & K, have either removed the existing movement restrictions on paddy/rice or have intimated that there exists no movement restrictions on foodgrains. The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and J & K, are being persuaded to remove the restrictions.

(b) Allocations of wheat and rice from Central pool to various States/UTs for the PDS/RPDS are made on month to month basis, having regard to the stocks available, seasonal availability, relative needs and off-take trends. The allocations from Central Pool are supplemental in nature and not meant for meeting the entire requirements of State Governments and UTs. The Central Government has also undertaken open sale of wheat and rice in different parts of the country to meet local requirements.

Besides, removal of all restrictions on the movement of foodgrains will help in better distribution and availability of foodgrains all over the country.

(c) The concept of food security is basic to planning for production, stocking and distribution of foodgrains. A constant watch is kept on the production levels and stocks of foodgrains and efforts are made to have sufficient foodstocks in Central Pool to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains.